7.0 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Resource requirements for the proposed action would comprise the materials and labor required to install and operate the AHPC system, which would include an estimated 4,902 filter bags. All filter bags would be obtained from W.L. Gore and Associates, which possesses more than 25 years experience in developing and supplying filter bags for use in baghouses to control particulate emissions. Filter bags for over 200 combustion systems have been supplied by Gore and Associates, and no problems would be expected in providing filter bag resources for the proposed AHPC system.

For operation of the AHPC system, additional electrical energy would be required in comparison to existing usage at the Big Stone Power Plant. The increased usage would be 1,187.5 kW, which is comparable to the annual level of opacity derates that the AHPC system would be expected to avoid.

The current water usage of 10 gallons per minute, which is needed for flue gas humidification to improve particulate collection by the existing ESP, would be eliminated.